



August 4-7, 2008 • Grade 6-12 Science Teachers • Traverse City

Northwestern Michigan College's Great Lakes Water Studies Institute is sponsoring an exciting learning opportunity for secondary science educators. Join us for the 2008 DTE Freshwater Institute for Teachers!

The DTE Freshwater Institute for Teachers features rich content, hands-on learning, collaboration and community-based projects about water resources. Participants receive a \$400 stipend, a \$200 mini-grant and the option to enroll for 3 graduate credits. The program has three main components:

1) SUMMER INSTITUTE

Teachers will participate in a 4-day summer institute at the Water Studies Institute of Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City and at a variety of local field locations from **August 4-7, 2008**. The summer institute combines classroom, laboratory and content-rich field activities and has three areas of focus:

- ◆ **Water resources and watershed management**
Teachers will learn about local water resources and general principles that apply to the study of water and watersheds. Content-rich field trips and hands-on activities will be a feature of the Institute.
- ◆ **Place-based education**
Teachers will reflect on the unique characteristics of place-based education and the ways that it can increase student engagement and achievement. Teachers will work with key stakeholders and community members to forge productive partnerships. As a tangible product of the Institute, each teacher will begin to design a community-based project to implement in the 2007-2008 school year.
- ◆ **Inquiry-based teaching and learning**
Teachers will examine models of inquiry-based instruction. Using resources provided at the Institute, they will explore ways to incorporate inquiry into instruction.

The Summer Institute will meet Monday, August 4-Thursday, August 7, 2008 from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at the Water Studies Institute in Traverse City. One day will feature a special evening session. Accommodations for the Summer Institute will be available free of charge in the dorms of Northwestern Michigan College and meals will be provided throughout the Institute.

2) PLACE-BASED EDUCATION PROJECT

During the 2008-2009 school year, teachers will develop and implement a place-based project about water resources with their students. Place-based projects achieve curricular goals while increasing student engagement and achievement through authentic field experiences, school-community partnerships and community service. Teachers will receive

support from WSI staff, veteran DTE Freshwater Institute teachers and local community partners to help develop and implement their place-based projects.

3) DINNER & DIALOGUE SESSIONS

Three Dinner & Dialogue sessions during the academic school year provide on-going support for participants of the Institute and their community partners. They help teachers refine their place-based education practices and foster linkages between teachers and support providers in the community. They also provide a more public forum for listening to and learning from students, teachers and community partners about education, natural resources and stewardship. Dinner & Dialogue sessions will be available in Traverse City and Ann Arbor from 4:30-7:30 p.m. on three evenings during the 2008-2009 school year.

TEACHER STIPENDS, MINIGRANTS AND GRADUATE CREDIT

Participants of the DTE Freshwater Institute will receive a **\$400 stipend** and a **\$200 mini-grant** to support the implementation of their place-based project. Teachers may also opt to enroll for **3 graduate credits**.

PARTICIPATION

The DTE Freshwater Institute is open to science teachers of grades 6-12. Up to **20** teachers will be selected to participate. In addition, teachers will be joined by key community partners and content experts from a variety of natural resource organizations. To help facilitate project support during the school year, preference will be given to teachers from the Grand Traverse and Ann Arbor areas.

HOW TO APPLY

Visit www.nmc.edu/glwsi/dte to download an application for the DTE Freshwater Institute. All applications are due by **June 20, 2008**.

For more information, please contact:

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The mission of the Great Lakes Water Studies Institute at Northwestern Michigan College is to inspire lifelong stewardship of freshwater through education, partnership and convening. This program is made possible by the DTE Energy Foundation.

Applications available online at www.nmc.edu/glwsi/dte
or call us at (231) 995-1722

